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## **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: All Council Members  
FROM: Lauren M. Smelkinson, County Auditor  
DATE: June 25, 2013  
SUBJECT: Addendum to Council Meeting Notes

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Please find attached an addendum (FM-8) to the Council Meeting Notes issued June 20, 2013.

This item will be discussed at the June 25, 2013 work session for the July 1, 2013 Council meeting.

Attachment

cc: notes distribution list

**FM-8 (Agreement)****Council District(s)** All**Department of Health and Human Services****Provide for Management and Control of Mosquitoes**

The Administration is requesting approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the Maryland Department of Agriculture to provide for the management and control of mosquitoes. The agreement commenced January 1, 2013, continues through December 31, 2013, and will automatically renew each calendar year upon approval of both parties. The County has participated in the State's mosquito program for the last 20 years; recently, the County requested that this relationship be formalized under an MOU. The program, however, is unchanged. The State will continue to design and monitor a mosquito control plan, administer spraying and other abatement efforts, and provide funding for up to 40% of eligible costs. The County will assist in inspection and community outreach efforts, and provide the remaining funding. Program participation of both the County and the State is contingent on the appropriation and approval of funding.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Initial Term</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>County</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 82,080	<sup>(1)</sup> General Fund Operating Budget. <sup>(2)</sup> Maryland Department of Agriculture funds. <sup>(3)</sup> Program budget for the initial 1-year term.
<b>State</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	35,720	
<b>Federal</b>	--	
<b>Other</b>	--	
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 117,800</u> <sup>(3)</sup>	

### **Analysis**

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has provided mosquito control services in cooperation with participating county governments for many years. The Department of Health and Human Services advised that the State and County have co-operated a mosquito control program for the last 20 years; the County recently requested a more formal agreement detailing the operational and financial responsibilities of both the County and the State.

Mosquito season typically runs from May through September; however, the Department advised that the length of the season varies and depends on weather conditions in the spring, summer, and fall. The State's preferred tactic for controlling mosquitoes is the reduction of mosquito larvae via source reduction, biological control agents, or biological insecticides. Adult mosquito control by the application of insecticide is conducted using aircraft or truck-mounted application equipment in residential areas. The Department advised that Baltimore County has over 100 communities that participate in the adult mosquito spray program, and any community may apply to be included in the program.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture will design and implement a mosquito management plan based on principles of integrated pest management, scientific data, and best practices as well as provide technical and professional assistance for the mosquito program. The State will recommend and procure all pesticides; provide calibration of spray equipment and any clothing and necessary equipment for handling and applying pesticides; obtain necessary state and federal toxic materials and pollution discharge permits; conduct surveillance and process mosquito trap collections; identify and count mosquitoes; treat tire piles and water holding containers for suppression of mosquito larvae and adult mosquitoes; and conduct all mosquito spraying activities. The State will apply insecticides only when necessary and will time the application of insecticides to coincide with peak levels of mosquito activity.

The County will assist the State with inspections of swimming pools and other sources of containerized water that may cause or allow mosquito breeding and will perform related code enforcement activities. The County will also assist with the public notification of program activities; resolving local citizen complaints; identifying outdoor tire storage or disposal sites; and conducting educational outreach promoting the dry storage of tires and the disposal of tires at authorized sites. The County, the County Health Officer, or the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability may request services for communities not included in the mosquito

spray program in response to a human case of West Nile Virus or other mosquito-borne human illness; the State will notify the County if non-routine areas will be sprayed.

The agreement commenced January 1, 2013, continues through December 31, 2013, and will automatically renew each calendar year upon approval of both parties. The total program budget for the initial 1-year term is \$117,800 with \$82,080 from the County and \$35,720 from the State. Funding for the renewal terms is contingent on the amount approved and appropriated for these services in both the County's and the State's budgets. State funds may constitute up to 40% of the cost of mosquito control activities. State funds may not be utilized for adult mosquito control activities unless the State fails to obtain prior County approval. The County is not required to provide funds to support mosquito control activities on State-owned land. The County is responsible for wages (including overtime), equipment, and pesticide costs associated with mosquito control. Either party may terminate the agreement by providing 30 days prior written notice.